STATE OF ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF: Western Growers Financial Services, Inc.

) FILE NO. 0600289

CONSENT ORDER OF FINE

TO THE RESPONDENT:

Western Growers Financial Services, Inc.

(B/D#: 115115) 17620 Fitch Street Irvine, California 92614

WHEREAS, Respondent Western Growers Financial Services, Inc. on the 14th day of August, 2006 executed a certain Stipulation to Enter Consent Order of Fine (the "Stipulation"), which hereby is incorporated by reference herein.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation, Respondent has admitted to the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State and service of the Notice of Hearing of the Secretary of State, Securities Department dated July 25, 2006 in this proceeding (the "Notice") and Respondent has agreed to the entry of this Consent Order of Fine ("Consent Order").

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation, the Respondent acknowledged, without admitting or denying the truth thereof, that the following allegations contained in the Notice of Hearing shall be adopted as the Secretary of State's Findings of Fact:

- 1. That on April 26, 2006 the Respondent filed a Form B/D application for registration as a dealer in the State of Illinois.
- 2. That on July 7, 2006, a Summary Order of Denial (the "Order") was issued by the Secretary of State denying this application. Pursuant to the terms of the Order, on July 17, 2006, the Respondent requested a hearing.
- 3. That the Respondent is a corporation which engages in the business of acting as a dealer in the offer and sale of securities to the general public.

- 4. That between January 2006 and May 2006 the Respondent effected a total of ten (10) purchase transactions in the accounts of an Illinois resident.
- 5. That Section 8.A of the Act provides, in pertinent part, except as otherwise provided, every dealer shall be registered as such with the Secretary of State.
- 6. That the activity described in paragraph two (2) above constitutes the activity of a dealer as defined in Section 2.7 of the Act.
- 7. That during all relevant times, the Respondent was not registered with the Secretary of State as a dealer pursuant to Section 8 of the Act.
- 8. That Section 12.A of the Act provides, inter alia, that it shall be a violation of the provisions of the Act for any person to offer or sell any security except in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- 9. That Section 12.C of the Act provides, inter alia, that it is a violation of the provisions of the Act for any person to act as a dealer, unless registered as such where such registration is required under the provisions of the Act.
- 10. That Section 8.E (1)(g) of the Act provides that the registration of a dealer may be denied if it has violated any of the provisions of this Act.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation, the Respondent acknowledged, without admitting or denying the truth thereof, that the Secretary of State makes the following additional Finding of Fact:

That Section 11.E (4) of the Act provides that in addition to any other sanction or remedy contained in this subsection E, the Secretary of State, after finding that any provision of this Act has been violated, may impose a fine as provided by rule, regulation or order not to exceed \$10,000, for each violation of this Act, may issue an order of public censure against the violator, and may charge as costs of investigation all reasonable expenses, including attorney's fees and witness fees.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation Respondent has acknowledged, without admitting or denying the averments, that the following shall be adopted as the Secretary of State's Conclusions of Law:

- 1. The Respondent has violated Sections 12.A and 12.C of the Act.
- 2. The Respondent's registration as a dealer in the State of Illinois is subject to denial pursuant to Section 8.E(1)(g) of the Act; and

3. The Respondent is subject to a FINE pursuant to Section 12A, 12C and 11.E(4) of the Act.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation Respondent has acknowledged and agreed that they shall be FINED Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$3,750.00), to be paid by certified or cashier's check, made payable to the Secretary of State, Securities Audit and Enforcement Fund.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation Respondent has acknowledged and agreed that they shall be levied the cost of the investigation of this matter in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), to be paid by certified or cashier's check, made payable to the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Audit and Enforcement Fund.

WHEREAS, by means of the Stipulation Respondent has acknowledged and agreed that it has submitted with the Stipulation a certified or cashier's check in the amount of Five Thousand Two Hundred Fifty dollars (\$5,250.00). Said sum is allocated as follows: Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$3,750.00) as FINE for violations of the Act; and One Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) to cover the costs incurred during the investigation of this matter. Said check has been made payable to the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Audit and Enforcement Fund.

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State, by and through his duly authorized representative, has determined that the matter related to the aforesaid formal hearing may be dismissed without further proceedings.

NOW THEREFORE IT SHALL BE AND IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1. The Summary Order of Denial issued on July 7, 2006 is **VACATED.**
- 2. Respondent is <u>FINED</u> in the amount of Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$3,750.00), payable to the Office of the Secretary of State, Securities Audit and Enforcement Fund, and on August 16, 2006 has submitted Three Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty dollars (\$3,750.00) in payment thereof.
- 3. Respondent is levied costs of investigation in this matter in the amount of One Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00), payable to the Office of the Secretary of State, Audit and Enforcement Fund, and on August 16, 2006 has submitted One Thousand Five Hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) in payment thereof.

Consent Order of Fine

The Notice of Hearing dated July 25, 2006 is dismissed.

ENTERED: This 17th day of August

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State of Illinois